Ensuring all Teachers are "Highly-Qualified" in the Subjects They Teach

David Anderson, PESB Assessment Director Jennifer Wallace, PESB Executive Director



Prospective Teacher Assessments

The PESB shall:

"Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for basic skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain residency certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through 28A.410.240"

Legislative intent:

"Teacher assessment for certification can guard against admission to the teaching profession of persons who have not demonstrated that they are knowledgeable in the subjects they will be assigned to teach"

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Prospective Teacher Assessments

Helps Washington State meet requirements of No Child Left Behind: the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

Teachers of "core academic subject areas" must be "highly qualified"

Washington consolidated plan:

For endorsed certificates (initial/continuing or residency/professional):

 Endorsement in that core academic area or endorsement-related assignment as specified by SBE

For non-endorsed certificate holders (standard):

- A degree, major, or equivalent in core academic area; or
- National Board Cert; or
- Pass Praxis II; or
- HOUSSE

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HOUSSE – High and Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation

Washington State Definition:

"Evaluated as satisfactory in each core academic subject taught based on criteria identified in RCW 28A.405.100 and WAC 392 191 010 and WAC 392 191

OSPI Consolidated State Plan – www.k12.wa.us/ESEA

Subject Knowledge Tests: WA Educator Skills Test – Endorsement (WEST-E / Praxis II)

- Teacher Certificate Endorsements = 33 tests
- Not Instructional Methodology
- Vendor = Education Testing Services Praxis II series
- Pass scores set by PESB
- September 1, 2003 available
- September 1, 2005 required for certification

Music*

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
General Music	Instrumental Music, Choral Music
Instrumental Music	General Music, Choral Music
Choral Music	General Music, Instrumental Music

^{*} The same Praxis II test has been adopted for General Music, Instrumental Music, and Choral Music endorsements.

Instructional Methodology Clusters Sciences

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
General Science	Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science Physics
Biology	General Science, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physics
Chemistry	Biology, General Science, Earth Science Physics
Earth Science	Biology, Chemistry, General Science Physics
Physics	Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, General

Middle Level

Current Endorsement(s)	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
Middle Level Math/Science	Mathematics, General Science
Middle Level Humanities	English/Language Arts, Social Studies, History
Mathematics & General Science	Middle Level Math/Science
English Language Arts & Social Studies	Middle Level Humanities

Business/Marketing

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
Business Education	Marketing Education, Technology
	Education
Marketing Education	Business Education

Bilingual/ESL/World Languages

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
Bilingual**	ESL** Designated World Languages
ESL**	Bilingual ** Designated World Languages
Designated World Languages	Bilingual, ESL

^{**} The ESL Praxis II test has been adopted for both the Bilingual and ESL endorsements

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Instructional Methodology Clusters

History/Social Studies

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
History ***	Social Studies***
Social Studies***	History***

^{***} The same Praxis II test has been adopted for the History and Social Studies Endorsement.

Elementary/Early Childhood/EC Special Ed

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
Elementary Education	Early Childhood Education
Early Childhood Education	Elementary Education
Early Childhood Special Education	Early Childhood Education

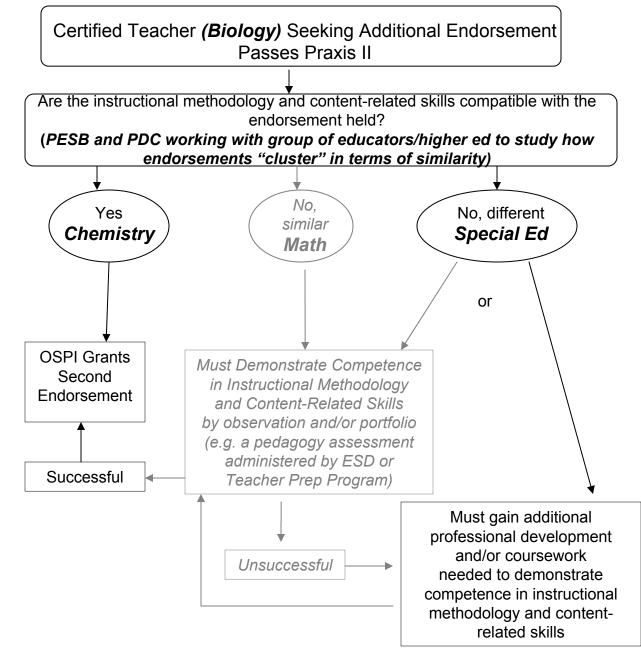
Dance/Theater/English Lang. Arts

Current Endorsement	Add-on Endorsement with Praxis II test only
Dance	Theater
Theater	English Language Arts

Adding Endorsements to Teaching Certificates: Options being studied by the PESB EXAMPLE

Benefits to model:

- •Increases access and opportunity via alternative routes to earning additional endorsements.
- •Field-based assessment / portfolio review would be fee-based; potentially much less costly than college/university courses and credits
- •Field-based assessment/portfolio review could be conducted by either higher ed programs or trained ESD staff
- •Teachers assigned out of endorsement can be working toward adding endorsement in context of job
- •Skills and knowledge needed to gain endorsement could be acquired through a variety of professional development experiences.
- •Could be focus of "core" activities for professional certificate or focus of professional growth plan for certificate renewal.
- •Recognizes prior learning and experience
- •Most important helps ensure teachers have subject matter expertise – crucial to student learning
- •Informs professional development opportunities offered by ESDs



PESB study will be submitted with recommendations to the SBE in Fall 2003